Wednesday, January 18, 2012 #1 FREE DAILY NEWSPAPER IN CENTER CITY

PAULA DEEN'S DEAL WITH GOD? {page 08}

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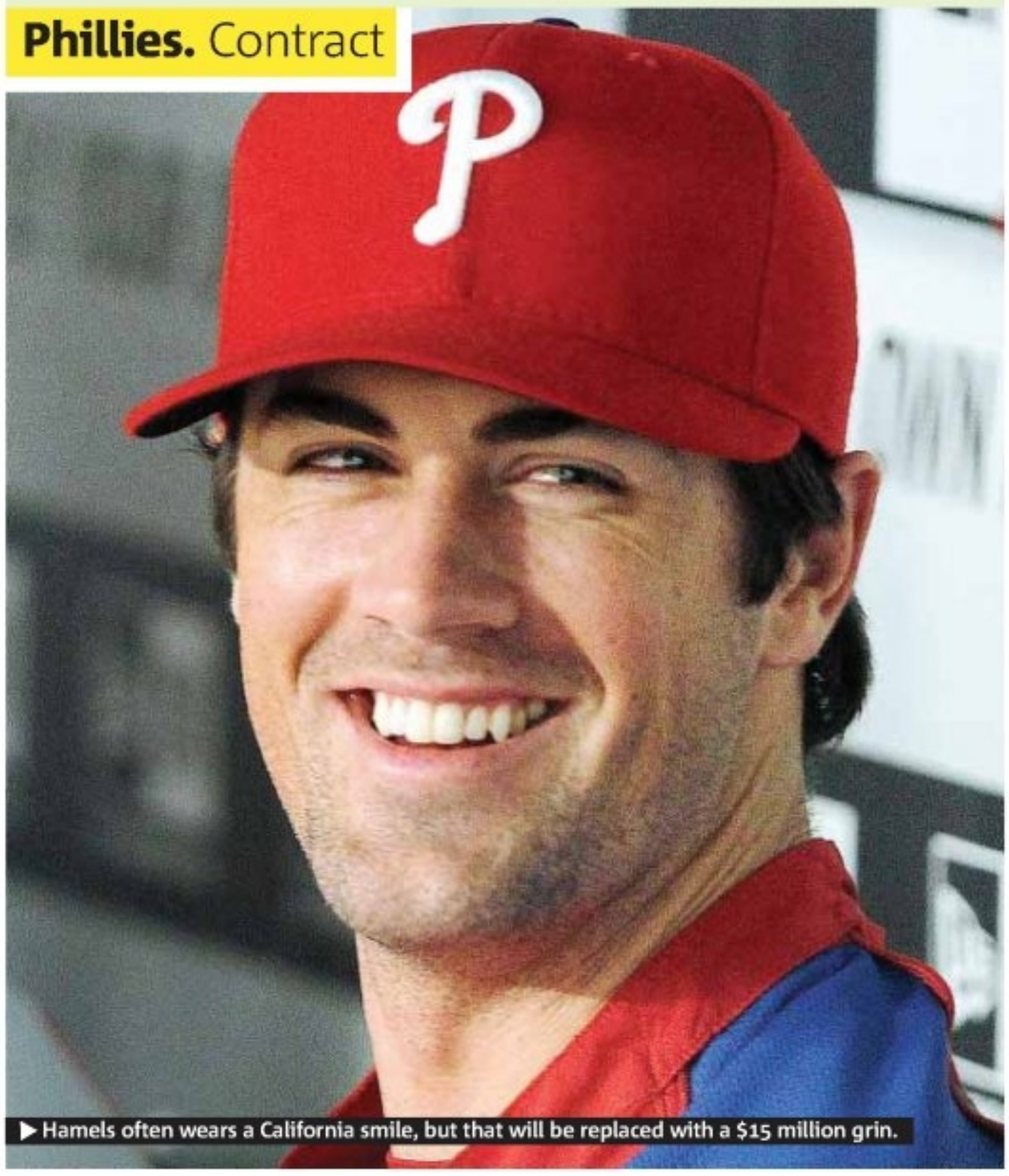
MIKE EHRMANN/GETTY IMAGES

Phillies. Contract



▶ Hamels often wears a California smile, but that will be replaced with a $15 million grin.

Cole Hamels got a big raise and the Phillies avoided arbitration with the youngest of their three stud starting pitchers after they agreed to a one-year deal yesterday. He'll have to wait at least a few more months for a long-term deal, with talks expected to pick up again in the summer. His new salary puts him tied for 11th highest in the majors among pitchers. {page 17}

After decade of murders, 1,104 cases are unsolved

Startling figure comes from 3,405 slayings in city limits since beginning of 2002 Detectives solved 2,301 cases and now face bloody start to 2012 {page 02}

News

Super PACs do dirty work for DC candidates

Outside money is running the show for 2012 elections Groups allow pols to play dumb over attack ads {page 06}

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RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ District tackles safety.

Report: Long way to safety in city schools

PHILADELPHIA. A Blue Ribbon Commission on safety in the School District of Philadelphia issued a final report yesterday that reveals the district has a long way to go in improving school climate.

Among the findings in the 41-page report are that inconsistencies exist in the reporting and tracking of serious incidents, that schools lack adequate counselors and support staff, and discrepancies in the Student Code of Conduct. The report was set to be presented at last night's School Reform Commission meeting.

"We realize that prevention is the wisest investment."
NUTTER AND NUNERY

The list of recommendations is wide-ranging, but officials say they are committed to turning things around.

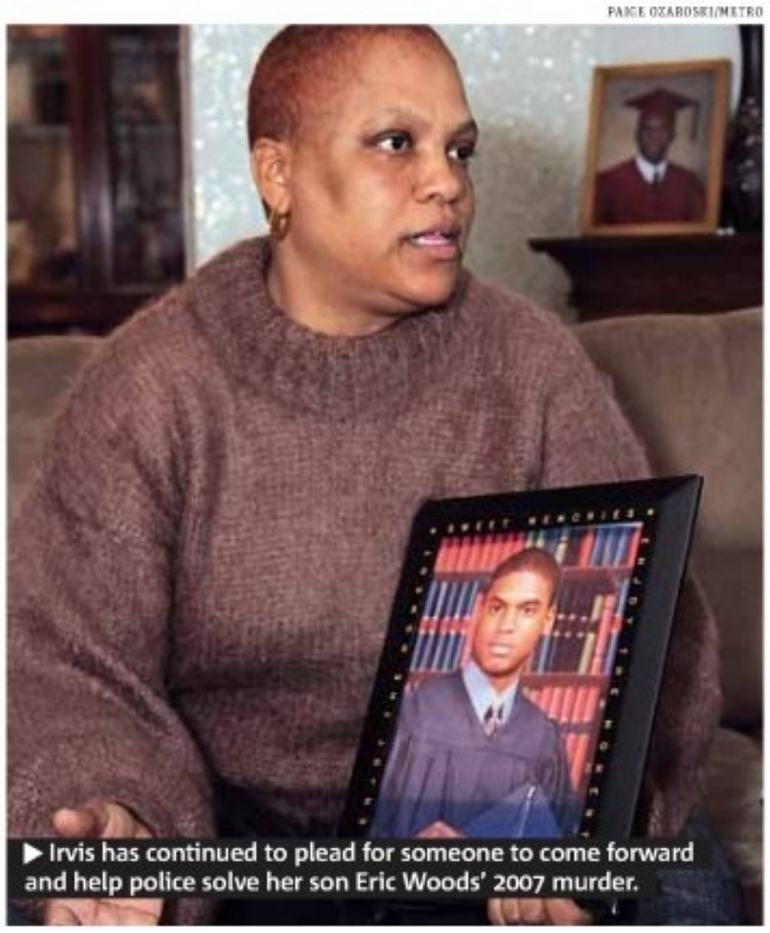
Mayor Michael Nutter and Interim Superintendent Leroy Nunery acknowledged that the community is "tired of 'business as usual.'"

The report indicates that some recommendations have already been implemented. Most others are expected to be put in place by the end of the school year. **METRO/SDL**

Open murder cases are open wounds for Philly

- Detectives have 68 percent clearance rate for 3,405 murders since '02
- Number of slayings unsolved tops 1,100
- Rewards have mixed results

PAIGE OZABOSKI/METRO


▶ Irvis has continued to plead for someone to come forward and help police solve her son Eric Woods' 2007 murder.

Monique Irvis opens a curio cabinet in her Southwest Philadelphia home that holds a shrine to her son, Eric Woods. The 19-year-old was gunned down in 2007 as two of his friends looked on.

"We have that suspect, but we're still stuck because we can't touch him," Irvis said. "And, in my heart, I know his friends know."

Irvis raised a $5,000 reward for information leading to Woods' killer. "I ran into so many people with the same situation," she said.

Philadelphia had 3,405 murders from the beginning of 2002 through the end of 2011 — 10 years' bloodshed — and 1,104 of them remain unsolved, according to crime statistics compiled by Scripps News and clearance rates provided by the Philadelphia police department to Metro for the years 2009 to 2011.

For families and friends left behind, each is unbearable. "I just exist," Irvis said. "I'm not here like I used to be."

And reward offerings aren't always enough when the motivation for keeping quiet is fear. "I wound up taking it down because it seemed like there was no point," Irvis said. "There's nothing that's going to make them talk."

But John McNesby of the Fraternal Order of Police, which is putting up a $5,000 reward for the Old City beating death of Kevin Kless to accompany the $10,000 announced by the city yesterday, said that the money does lead to more arrests, though it isn't something the organization does often.

"The public outcry and brutality of the facts led us to do a reward," he said. "It's not that we view one homicide over another — all are tragic."

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Decade of death

Here's a closer look at 10 years' worth of murders.

- The deadliest year from the beginning of 2002 to the end of 2011 was 2006, when 407 people were murdered. Police cleared 226 of those murders.
- The least deadly was 2002 when 288 people were murdered. Police cleared 231 of those murders.
- In five of the 10 years, homicide detectives cleared between 226 and 231 murders. Detectives solved between 215 and 248 in all 10 years.

Community still in fear

Irvis said that she would like to believe things have changed since 2007, when murders for the year hit 392.

But she still sees criminals in her neighborhood drifting in and out of jail and community members keeping tight-lipped. "I have one son left and I live in fear every day," she said.

No leads yet in Kless death

Police are still looking for a break in the now 4-day-old brutal murder of Kless, 23, who was beaten to death by three men after a traffic dispute at 2:25 a.m. Saturday while out with two friends.

In the news

Woman, boy ID'd in fatal car crash

Police have identified the victims in Monday's fatal crash on Kelly Drive as Karen Watts, 34, and Quinn Fleming, 11. Both Watts and Fleming resided at the same address in Roxborough, but their relationship is unclear. Authorities said Watts was driving a car northbound when she swerved into oncoming traffic. **METRO**

In the news

Christie says NJ on rebound

All New Jersey income tax brackets should be cut 10 percent, Gov. Chris Christie proposed yesterday, saying the state was on the comeback trail due to harsh budget cuts last year. In his State of the State address, he also said the earned income tax credit that aids the working poor should be fully restored.
REUTERS

▶ Nutter at the scene.

Man drops in downtown suicide

CENTER CITY. A man shot himself in the head with a shotgun and dropped from one of the top floors of the Embassy Suites hotel at 17th and the Parkway yesterday, according to police.

Police said the black male was partially clothed when he killed himself around 1 p.m. yesterday. A witness on the scene reported hearing a loud pop, then seeing the body drop, narrowly missing three passing children. The dead man may have fallen from as high as the 26th floor. **METRO/AW**

Boyfriend charged

MONTGOMERY COUNTY. Authorities have charged a man with the strangulation death of his live-in girlfriend during the weekend.

Johnny Fossett allegedly confessed to the murder of Lori Jefferson, who was found bound and gagged inside her home Sunday morning. He is being held without bail after arraignment yesterday.

The two allegedly had an argument that escalated and Fossett began choking Jefferson, police said. **METRO/SDL**

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Fri. 1/20 vs. Atlanta - Tickets as low as $10

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ANDRE IGUODALA #9
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ELTON BRAND #42
Forward

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4 NOH 8:00 CSN	5	6 DET 7:00 CSN	7 TOR 8:00 CSN
8	9 IND 7:00 CSN	10 SAC 7:00 CSN	11 NY 7:30 CSN	12	13 WAS 7:00 CSN	14 WAS 7:00 CSN
15	16 MIL 2:00 CSN	17	18 DEN 7:00 CSN	19	20 ATL 7:00 CSN	21 MIA 7:30 CSN
22	23 WAS 7:00 CSN	24	25 NJ 7:00 CSN	26	27 CHA 7:00 CSN	28 DET 7:00 CSN
29	30 ORL 7:00 CSN	31				

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News in brief

'Friends' force new DUI trial

PHILADELPHIA. State Rep. Cherelle Parker will likely face a second drunken-driving trial after a judge yesterday reinstated charges that another judge dismissed.

Parker's charges were dropped in November by Municipal Court Judge Charles Hayden, but Hayden should have recused himself because the two are "friends" on Facebook, Common Pleas Court Judge Paula Patrick ruled, according to Fox 29 news.

State prosecutors have 60 days to conduct a new trial for Parker in Municipal Court. Parker's attorney said he plans to appeal the ruling to Superior Court.

METRO

Lawmakers debate gas drilling

PENNSYLVANIA. Hundreds of residents from around the state gathered in Harrisburg asking lawmakers to oppose gas drilling bills on the first day of the 2012 legislative session.

The bills headed to committee where lawmakers will debate environmental effects by wells, pipelines, compressor stations, and chemical and waste storage of the growing gas drilling industry.

Advocates against the bills claim that the proposals, if approved, would tie the hands of local officials on zoning decisions and be harmful to the health of residents and the environment.

METRO/MALIK CHARLTON

Arrival of new airline at PHL is a first since 2004

Virgin America, a chic airline known for its unique passenger amenities, will begin nonstop service from Philadelphia International Airport to two popular West Coast destinations in April, officials announced yesterday.

Virgin America, which launched in 2007, is the first new airline at Philly International since Southwest in 2004. Its expansion to Philadelphia marks its fifth new city in the last 12 months and now features a total of 17 cities. The airline has established a reputation for passenger amenities, including custom-designed mood-lit cabins, wireless Internet and seatback touchscreen TVs.

"This is exciting news for the citizens of Philadelphia and the region as our great airport scores another home run for us," Mayor Michael Nutter said in a news release. "Virgin America will join the airport family offering new service to the West Coast, while stimulating our regional economy and expanding the choices for our travelers."

US Airways is the only PHL carrier that offers service to both Los Angeles and San Francisco. Delta flies to L.A., and United Airlines travels to San Francisco.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Next stop for Virgin America? Philadelphia!

$149

Cost of a flight April 10, the carrier will launch two daily flights from PHL to San Francisco International Airport (SFO) for $149. The introductory fares do not include taxes and fees.

$129

Cost of a flight from Philly to Los Angeles Airport for $129, starting April 4. Three flights will leave PHL daily.

SOLOMON D. LEACH
sleach@metro.us

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We're looking for couples who found love on SEPTA. The couples with the most "moving" stories will win an invitation to "El"-evate their love to a whole new level by riding the "Love Train" on Sunday, February 12. This specially decorated Market-Frankford Line train will take the winning couples on a romantic ride with a perfect view of the Mural Arts Program's "Love Letters" followed by a champagne reception in downtown Philadelphia. Submissions and voting only until Monday February 6th precisely at 11:59pm. Stories with the most votes WIN!!!
Bliss on the Bus. Romance on the Rails.

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We live in an area which is known for very cold winters. Our facility is nearly 7000 square feet in area. When we began to utilize the first unit we were amazed to see how even the heat was for the entire living room area. We ordered a second and a third unit which now warms the entire home. Much to our surprise we are saving over $250 a month and had the lowest expense for heating we have ever experienced here. I would heartily recommend your products to anybody who is interested in really nice, even heat in their home and also interested in saving on their utility expenses.
Dennis Crystal, Troy, MT (Retired Airline Pilot)

Enclosed you will find printouts of our electric bill and gas/heating/cooking bills for 2007 - 2008. Our gas company, AmeriGas, stated that more money was saved than would show up because of the cost going up. We would turn the gas on early in the morning and turn it down to 60 degrees; We would use the EdenPURE heaters from then on and they provided such warmth and cozy heat. We, also, had fewer colds last winter than in previous years, before we purchased the EdenPURE heaters. Many of our friends have informed me recently that they are going to purchase these heaters for their homes this winter.
Gloria D. Smith, Boydton, VA (Retired Elementary Principal)

EdenPURE® ranked #1

Save $192 – biggest savings ever

Bob Vila, America's Favorite Home Improvement Expert, North Canton, Ohio

I know why millions of Americans are saving on their heating bills with the EdenPURE® Infrared Portable Heater.

And ***now* you can save up to $192, our lowest price ever** on the new 2012 EdenPURE® Personal Heater. The heater I personally rank #1 in North America.

And, I'm proud to add, the new and improved EdenPURE® is made in the U.S.A, here in North Canton, Ohio.

The engineers at EdenPURE® listened to their millions of customers and somehow managed to improve the #1 portable heater in North America. Through old-fashioned American ingenuity the new EdenPURE® is more efficient to save you even more money.

Now heat a larger room more efficiently with a 14% increase in square footage, from 300 to 350 square feet. Plus the safest heater in the world became even safer thanks to EdenPURE®'s American engineers. And the good folks at EdenPURE® even reopened an abandoned factory in the heart of Ohio providing much needed jobs for hundreds of workers.

For over 30 years as your home improvement television host, I have reviewed and experienced thousands of products. I have an EdenPURE® in my home and found it to be a very safe and reliable source of portable heat. This is one of those few comfort investments I can recommend for your home that will truly pay dividends.

We all know heating costs are expected to remain at record levels. The cost of heating our homes will continue to be a significant burden on the family budget. The *EdenPURE® can cut your heating bills*, and pay for itself in a matter of weeks and then start putting a great deal of extra money in your pocket after that.

With over one million satisfied customers around the world, the new EdenPURE® heats better, faster, saves more on heating bills, and runs almost silent.

A major cause of residential fires in the United States is portable heaters. Fire and safety professional, Captain Mike Hornby ranks EdenPURE® #1 for safety and reliability. The EdenPURE® has no exposed heating elements that can cause a fire.

The outside of the EdenPURE® only gets warm to the touch so that it will not burn children or pets. And your pet may be just like my dog who has reserved a favorite spot near the EdenPURE®.

Accept no imitations

The EdenPURE® can also help you feel better. Unlike other EdenPURE® imitators, it will not reduce humidity or oxygen in the room. These imitators use ceramic plates instead of our patented copper. These inexpensive ceramic plates reduce humidity, dry out your sinuses, make you more susceptible to illness, and make your skin dry. With other heating sources, you'll notice that you get sleepy when the heat comes on because they are burning up oxygen.

The advanced space-age EdenPURE® Portable Heater also heats the room evenly, wall-to-wall and floor-to-ceiling. Other heating sources heat rooms unevenly with most of the heat concentrated high in the room and to the center of the room. And, as you know, portable heaters only heat an area a few feet around the heater.

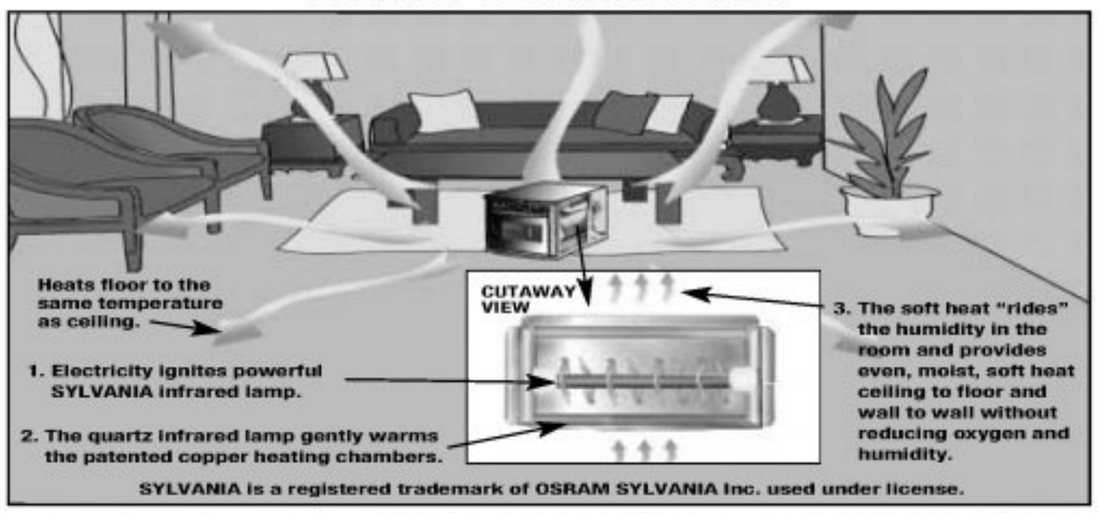
EdenPURE®'s EdenFLOW™ technology uses copper heating chambers to take the energy provided by our special SYLVANIA infrared bulbs and distributes the famous "soft heat" evenly throughout your room. And again, our new improved Personal Model heats a much larger area of 350 square feet, a 14% increase. With EdenPURE® the temperature will not vary in any part of the room.

How can I cut my heating bill with EdenPURE®? First, the EdenPURE® uses less energy to create heat than many other sources, but that is just part of why it will cut a person's heating bill. The EdenPURE® will heat a room in minutes. You will immediately notice the difference! Therefore, you can turn the heat down in your house to as low as 50 degrees, but the room you are occupying, which has the EdenPURE®, will be warm and comfortable.

Your EdenPURE® easily moves from room to room. Using zone heating keeps you comfortable and reduces your heating bills. This can drastically cut heating bills; in some instances, the savings may be substantial.

The EdenPURE® will pay for itself in weeks. It will keep a great deal of extra money in a user's pocket. Because of today's spiraling gas, oil, propane, and other energy costs, the EdenPURE® will provide even greater savings as time goes by.

How it works:


Heats floor to the same temperature as ceiling.
1. Electricity ignites powerful SYLVANIA infrared lamp.
2. The quartz infrared lamp gently warms the patented copper heating chambers.
CUTAWAY VIEW
3. The soft heat "rides" the humidity in the room and provides even, moist, soft heat ceiling to floor and wall to wall without reducing oxygen and humidity.
SYLVANIA is a registered trademark of OSRAM SYLVANIA Inc. used under license.

The EdenPURE® Personal Heater comes with a comprehensive three year warranty and a 60-day, no questions asked, satisfaction guarantee – EdenPURE® will even pay for the return shipping. There is absolutely no risk. And EdenPURE® is the only portable heater with a National Service Network.

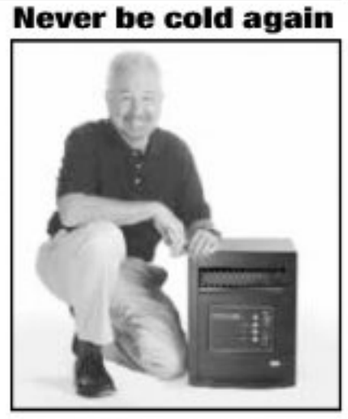
How to order:

During this special 10 day offer we can deliver to your home our Personal Heater which comfortably covers an area up to 350 square feet.

During our special, you are eligible for a $175 DISCOUNT PLUS FREE SHIPPING AND HANDLING FOR A TOTAL SAVINGS OF UP TO $192 on the EdenPURE® Personal Heater. Our largest discount ever. This special offer expires in 10 days. If you order after that, we reserve the right to either accept or reject order requests at the discounted price. See my attached Authorized Discount Coupon to take advantage of this savings opportunity.

The EdenPURE® carries a 60-day unconditional, no-risk guarantee. If you are not totally satisfied, return it at our expense and your purchase price will be refunded. No questions asked. There is also a 3-year warranty for the Personal Heater.

Never be cold again



Firemen and safety professionals choose EdenPURE®. We all read about space heaters and the danger of fire. The EdenPURE® has no exposed heating elements that can cause a fire. And your pet may be just like my dog that has reserved a favorite spot near the EdenPURE®. – *Bob Vila*

BOB VILA'S AUTHORIZED DISCOUNT COUPON

The price of the EdenPURE® Personal Heater is $372 plus $17 shipping and handling but, with this Authorized Discount Coupon, you will receive a $175 discount, free shipping and handling and be able to get the EdenPURE® Personal Heater for only $197 delivered. The personal heater has an optional remote for only $12. After 10 days we reserve the right to either accept or reject order requests at the discounted price.

Check below the number you want (limit 3 per customer)

☐ Personal Heater, number _____

☐ I am ordering within 10 days, therefore I get a $175 discount, free shipping and handling and my price is only $197 for the Personal Heater delivered.

☐ I am ordering past 10 days, therefore I pay full price of $372 plus $17 shipping & handling for the Personal Heater.

☐ Optional Remote $12, number _____

- To claim your discount and order by phone: call **toll-free 1-800-366-1315**. Operators are on duty Monday - Friday 6am - 3am, Saturday 7am - 12am and Sunday 7am - 11pm, EST. Give operator your Offer Code on this coupon.
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Account No. _____ Exp. Date ____/____

Signature _____

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When super PACs attack

The 2012 election season is shaping up to be defined by super PAC money These groups allegedly have no ties to the candidates they represent, allowing politicians to feign ignorance

The U.S. presidential election is nearly 10 months away, but the theme of the 2012 campaign already seems set: It's the Year of the PAC Attacks.

Political action committees — groups with great clout in U.S. politics that are legally separate from candidates — have spent more than $25 million this campaign season, with much more to come. Nearly half of that amount has bought messages, typically TV and radio advertisements, criticizing candidates.

This campaign season, the PACs have taken over much of the dirty work of running negative ads aimed at hurting rivals, allowing candidates to officially keep their campaigns clean.

In South Carolina, PACs backing individual candidates already have spent $4.6 million in "negative" ads attacking other candidates, according to a Reuters analysis of Federal Election Commission filings.

Voters in South Carolina, like those earlier this month in the Iowa and New Hampshire contests that opened the nomination race, have been bombarded by radio, TV and Internet ads. Most of what they are seeing is negative advertising.

▶ Comedian Stephen Colbert mocks campaign attack ads on his late-night TV show. He formed his own super PAC, which so far has reported spending $21,600 on attacking Romney.

There are controversial advertisements placed by Winning Our Future, a PAC supporting former House of Representatives speaker Newt Gingrich, that blast Romney's record as a private equity executive, calling him a corporate raider and a job killer who laid off thousands of workers.

And there are ads by Restore Our Future, the pro-Romney group that helped to drive down Gingrich's poll numbers a month ago with a wave of ads accusing him of having questionable ethics.

Like his campaign, the PAC supporting Romney has far outdistanced its rivals in spending. Restore our Future has reported spending $8.1 million during the overall campaign.

Much of that money has gone toward attack ads against Gingrich, who during the campaign has been the subject of $7.8 million in attack-ad spending by the pro-Romney PAC and other groups, according to a Reuters analysis of FEC reports. Gingrich, by far, is the most attacked Republican candidate in campaign ads. Romney is next, having been the subject of negative ads costing $3.2 million.

The spending against Romney is likely to soar by the end of this week. Winning Our Future, the pro-Gingrich PAC, has vowed to spend $3.4 million in South Carolina alone. To date, it has spent $3.7 million in the entire campaign.

"This is a time when everyone picks up a knife and throws it," said Barry Wynn, an influential Republican donor. "It's a cage fight when you come to South Carolina." **REUTERS**

▶ Santorum

Deniability defense

SOUTH CAROLINA. During Monday night's debate for Republican candidates in Myrtle Beach, Santorum went after Romney, saying the ad by Restore Our Future was misleading.

Romney responded with what has become the deniability defense for candidates in the age of Super PACs: that the ad criticizing Santorum didn't come from Romney's campaign, so Romney had no control over it.

"If they ever run an ad that's not accurate, I hope they take out the ad and make it correct," Romney, a former Massachusetts governor, said of the PAC that supports him. **REUTERS**

We've got Mitt in our sights

Metropolitik

BRAYDEN SIMMS

POLITICAL REALISM FOR THE URBAN PROLETARIAT

@METROPOLITIK

Welcome to Metropolitik, a new Metro feature designed to bring you, our busy reader, the most up-to-date, off-the-wall election coverage that no money can buy. In our march toward truth and accuracy in reporting, we reserve the right to smear, besmirch, mock, uplift and ultimately destroy any public personality in the U.S. political sphere. For complaints, suggestions and offers of male sexual enhancement, please e-mail brayden.simms@metro.us.

Nobody seems to like him much (aside from primary voters, clearly), but it's become more and more apparent that Mitt Romney will likely be the Republican nominee for the 2012 presidency.

We know what you're thinking: "But Ron Paul!" And: "Shut up and let the voters decide!" And, if my gut is right on this, probably even: "Nice glasses, hipster doofus."

All reasonable points. But we're not here to advocate for a particular candidate, or to sit back and allow the primary process to unfold naturally. Our job is to analyze goofs, gaffes and national trends; and, from where we're sitting, there's no goofier trend than America's mysterious penchant for Mitt Romney.

So like him or not — and we do understand that it's probably "not" — we're going to be paying particularly close attention to the affable Mittens. Get excited.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

EMMANUEL DUNAND/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Romney is nearly in the nation's "1 percent" of top income earners based solely on his allegedly negligible speaking fees.

15%

Multimillionaire Romney admitted at a campaign stop yesterday that his tax rate is somewhere around 15 percent — lower than most middle-class households. This is because a majority of Mitt's income, like most rich folk, comes in the form of investments, which are taxed at lower rates than traditional income gained from actually, you know, going to work. At the debate Monday night, Romney also explained that "not very much" of his annual income comes in the form of speaking fees. That "not very much" for 2011? Oh, just $374,000.

GET FED

Because sometimes you've only got time to skim the headlines:

- "Mitt Romney is rich. So what?" **WASHINGTON POST**
- "Why Mitt Romney's Tax Rate Matters" **TIME**
- "The Last Clear Shot at Romney" **NYMAG.COM**
- "On policy, Romney is far to Bush's right" **THE WASHINGTON POST**
- "Gingrich: I 'Don't See' Why Calling 'Food Stamps' An African-American Issue Is Insulting" **THINKPROGRESS**
- "Obama going to Disney World" **ORLANDO SENTINEL**
- "Santorum Says He May Have Won in Iowa" **NYTIMES.COM**

First time for everything, we suppose

"It's dirty politics, and I expect that from Barack Obama. I don't ever expect it from a Republican."

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE RICK SANTORUM YESTERDAY ACCUSED ROMNEY OF PLAYING DIRTY OVER MITT'S USE OF A 5-YEAR-OLD SANTORUM RECORDING IN WHICH THE FORMER PA. SEN. HAD ENDORSED ROMNEY FOR 2008 PRESIDENT.

Italian cruise skipper had to be ordered back

- Newspaper releases reported recording of captain, coast guard argument
- Franceso Schettino allowed to leave jail, but remains under house arrest

Italian coast guards pleaded angrily with the captain of a stricken super-liner to return to his ship, according to recordings released yesterday as divers found five more bodies in the half-submerged wreck of the Costa Concordia.

The discoveries took the known death toll to 11.

One German who was listed as missing has been accounted for, Italy's civil protection department said, leaving 23 people still missing four days after the giant cruiser carrying more than 4,200 passengers and crew was ripped open by rocks off a Tuscan island.

Schettino is accused of multiple manslaughter charges. **REUTERS**

The recordings

Newspaper Corriere della Sera released an alleged recording of ship-to-shore radio communications.

"Listen Schettino, perhaps you have saved yourself from the sea, but I will make you look very bad. I will make you pay for this. Dammit, go back on board!" one coast guard says.

"What do you want to do, to go home, Schettino?! It's dark and you want to go home? Go to the bow of the ship where the ladder is and tell me what needs to be done, how many people there are, and what they need! Now!"

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Captain Francesco Schettino is accused of risking thousands of lives and half a billion dollars of ship in a reckless display.

Assassination charges for W.H. alleged shooter

A U.S. judge found sufficient evidence that an Idaho man allegedly opened fire on the White House in late November in a bid to assassinate President Obama, ordering that he be held pending an indictment and questioning whether he may have a "Messianic complex."

Oscar Ortega-Hernandez, 21, has been charged with trying to kill the president when he allegedly opened fire on the executive mansion with a semi-automatic weapon on November 11.

After a lengthy hearing, U.S. Magistrate Judge John Facciola found that there was probable cause that Ortega-Hernandez had committed the crime and ordered him held pending a grand jury review. **REUTERS**

Blackberry set to be sold to Samsung

Shares of Research In Motion jumped more than 10 percent yesterday after a tech blog said the BlackBerry maker was seeking to sell itself to rival Samsung.

The Boy Genius Report website cited an unidentified source saying that Jim Balsillie an RIM co-chief executive, was meeting with companies interested in either licensing its software or buying a part or all of RIM, with Samsung leading the pack.

Jefferies analyst Peter Misek later said the report was likely true, but that licensing deals for RIM's upcoming phone software was a more likely scenario and would in turn lead to a major restructuring. **REUTERS**

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THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Jessica Alba is feeling a bit sleepy, Neil Patrick Harris is tempted to do reality TV, Chris Colfer is worried about how toddlers perceive him and Joan Rivers is getting the facts straight.

@jessicaalba: Ever feel like you can fall asleep in 1.5 seconds 2 hrs after u wake up? It's 1 of those days.

@ActuallyNPH: I've found a new TV obsession: Celebrity Big Brother UK. Can't stop watching YouTube videos! I so badly want to partake!

@chriscolfer: I was just called "Mama" at a first birthday party. Not sure how I feel about this...

@Joan_Rivers: Madonna reveals that she "didn't stand in front of a mirror and say I'll only date young men". No, she said it on the way to Chuck E Cheese.

Colfer

Paula Deen: Now is 'God's time' to make some cash

Thanks to a super scoop by The Daily about two weeks ago, we learned that celebrity chef **Paula Deen**, champion of all things fattening — deep-fried butter balls, Velveeta fudge and butter/mayo/whiz spread, to name just a few of her recipes — had type 2 diabetes and would soon take that news on a publicity blitz. Well, that whirlwind media tour kicked off yesterday when she went on "Today" to coincide with a USA Today feature about her diagnosis.

Although she's apparently been diabetic for more than two years (while continuing to shill her high-fat, high-calorie cooking), she decided to wait to go public because it wasn't "God's time" when she first learned she was sick. "I felt like I had nothing to offer anybody other than the announcement. I wasn't armed with enough knowledge. I knew when it was time, it would be in God's time," she told USA Today.

▶ Is Deen guilty of tasteless profiteering? Or is this just her version of workers' compensation?

Interestingly enough, for Deen, "God's time" means "time to finagle a lucrative contract with the makers of a diabetes drug." As, oh yes, Deen used that lull to sign on as a sponsor for the diabetes medicine Victoza. A new website featuring Deen as their spokesperson also launched yesterday.

Deen doesn't want to talk about how much money she's making off the deal. She tells USA Today, "Talking about money is garish. It's tacky. But, of course, I've been compensated for my time. That's the way our world works."

Is it just me, or is it also "garish" and "tacky" to continue to shill your junk food to people even though you know it can cause long-term damage to their health — like it did you?

Lohan might not be Taylor

Lindsay Lohan's plans to relaunch her acting career may not be as set in stone as she thought. The troubled actress is up to play **Elizabeth Taylor** in a Lifetime TV movie, but the film's producer tells E! News that Lohan isn't the only starlet being considered. "I've been talking to Lindsay Lohan directly, and with her reps, and have been in conversation with other actresses, including **Megan Fox**," **Larry Thompson** says. "It's a very serious selection. It's like casting for Hollywood royalty."

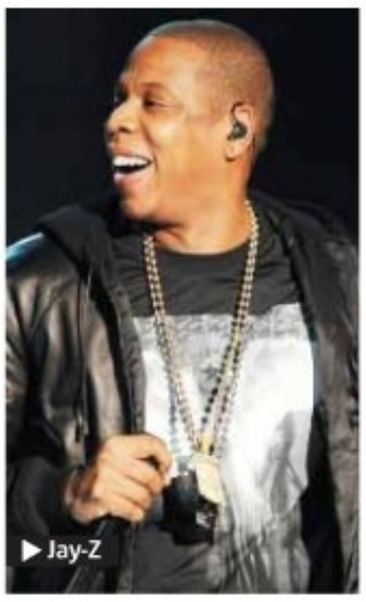
If Taylor's really Hollywood royalty, why are you having Hollywood jesters up for the role?

Lohan

Talking points

Ninety-nine problems, but his daughter isn't one

Now that he's a dad to a baby girl, **Jay-Z** is cleaning up his act, according to NME. The rapper has released a poem vowing to stop using the word "bitch" in his lyrics. "Before I got in the game, made a change, and got rich. I didn't think hard about using the word bitch," he writes. "I rapped, I flipped it, I sold it, I lived it. Now with my daughter in this world I curse those that give it." Jay-Z also released a song earlier this month that features the sounds of daughter **Blue Ivy Carter** cooing and crying, which made her the youngest person ever to be credited on the U.S. Billboard singles chart.



▶ Jay-Z

Gervais: His last Golden Globes?

Though he's said it after both his previous Golden Globes hosting stints, **Ricky Gervais** insists he won't be back to lead the awards show again. "I've told my agent to never let me be persuaded to do it again," he writes on his blog. "It's like a parachute jump. You can only really enjoy it in retrospect when you realize you didn't die and it was quite an amazing thing to do." As for the crowd of Hollywood luminaries, Gervais says it was an improvement on last year. "The crowd was great this year," Gervais writes. "I think they finally worked out that my gags only seemed rude and nasty but were actually not too scary at all. Or they were just drunker."

▶ Gervais

Lavigne and Jenner are no more

Avril Lavigne and **Brody Jenner** have reportedly split up, according to Life & Style. "It wasn't working out, and they wanted to go their separate ways," a source says. "She wanted to settle down, but he wasn't exactly ready." Lavigne was previously married to musician **Deryck Whibley**.

A few candid shots for your Wednesday

1. Maria Shriver and son Patrick Schwarzenegger (hubba hubba!) attended a game between the Dallas Mavericks and the Los Angeles Lakers at Staples Center on Monday in Los Angeles.

2. Penelope Cruz was snapped leaving her hotel on Tuesday in London.

3. Ashley Greene was caught by a photographer getting made up during her final day of filming for "Pan Am" on the streets of Manhattan on Monday.

4. Lindsay Lohan left after her probation update hearing at the Airport Courthouse on Tuesday in Los Angeles. Lohan received a positive review from Judge Stephanie Sautner and is due back in court in February for another update hearing.

5. Elizabeth Banks arrived for "The Late Show with David Letterman" at Ed Sullivan Theater on Monday in New York City.

6. Kate Moss was spotted leaving a Japanese restaurant on Monday in London, England.

1: NOEL VASQUEZ/GETTY IMAGES
2: NEIL MOCKFORD/FILMMAGIC
3: ABY BAKER/GETTY IMAGES
4: TOBY CANHAM/GETTY IMAGES
5: DONNA WARD/GETTY IMAGES
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Get made-up

Tools of the trade

Theron's makeup was all Dior, natch. Here's the makeup that expert Shane Paish used.

- **Skin:** Dior L'Or de Vie La Creme, Diorskin Airflash Spray Foundation
- **Eyes:** Dior 5-Couleurs Eyeshadow in Garden Roses #841, Diorshow Extase Mascara
- **Lips:** Rouge Dior Lipcolor in Tulip Pink #448, Dior Addict Ultra-Gloss in Beige Tweed #227
- **Cheeks:** Diorblush in Pink in Love #889

GET THE LOOK: CHARLIZE THERON

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Re-create Charlize Theron's Golden Globes look for your own special moments.

Best actress nominee Charlize Theron didn't just wow us at the Golden Globes with her gorgeous pink Dior gown; we were equally smitten by the romantic updo stylist Enzo Angileri created for her. Here, he tells us how.

"I wanted her hair to have a casual feeling — very soft, almost as if she had pulled it together herself," explains Angileri. "The design is modern, asymmetrical and just a little messy."

Instructions:

▶ Angileri started by curling small sections of Theron's naturally wavy hair with a two inch curling iron. "I used the larger iron because I didn't want to curl her hair, but to refine the natural wave. This helped create an effortless transition from her natural look to red carpet," he says.

▶ After a few minutes, he brushed through her hair to create a romantic, soft texture.

▶ Next, Angileri swept her hair to the left and made three sections. "I pulled and rolled the first two into a loose bun and pinned them, working with Moroccanoil Luminous Hairspray throughout the process. I released and wrapped the last section under and around the bun and pinned it. Finally, I adjusted and freed strands in the bun so it looked even more unstructured, messy and a bit wispy."

▶ The final touch was spraying the do with Moroccanoil Frizz Control. METRO

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Copies of the application and related material are available for public inspection at 6819 Greene Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119.

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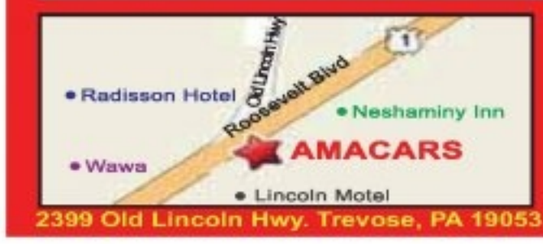

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Scud Mountain Boys are back on the road

After a bad breakup and 14 years of not even speaking to each other, Joe Pernice decided it was time to bury the hatchet and reunite his alt-country band

COURTESY OF ASHMONT RECORDS

▶ The Scud Mountain Boys, pictured here in their prime, are back on tour. They swing through Johnny Brenda's next month.

When alt-country began to reach the height of indie rock consciousness, the Scud Mountain Boys of Northampton, Mass., went from being a blip on the local radar to a universally renowned band destined for reverence, but limited by brevity.

"We really weren't making records for all that long, when you think about it," singer/songwriter Joe Pernice reminisces. "I think our first record came out in 1995. … Our second record came out in February of 1995. And then we signed a record deal with Sub Pop and recorded our third record in September of 1995. It came out April of 1996 and the band was broken up by July of 1997. I became a little detached in a way. I had already started feeling like I didn't want to do it. I was uncomfortable playing the music live."

The band possessed the smoky whisper of hushed vocals and back-country balladry with the southbound twang and slang of steel guitars. Not only was their career cut short, but their breakup led to more than a decade of bad blood and non-correspondence.

"When the band broke up, it wasn't a very good break," Pernice confesses. "We went from being tight friends to not speaking. I'm not kidding when I say I didn't say a word with them."

Since then Pernice has recorded solo, recorded with his brother as Pernice Brothers, written two novels and co-founded Ashmont Records. Now, after relocating to Toronto, he's ready to be a Scud Mountain Boy again.

"It was really the death of our friend that was a catalyst for me," he says. "He was a good friend of ours, probably our biggest fan. … I listened to the music for the first time and thought it was really very good and maybe we should play a show just for fun. In my mind, it'd be a great reason to patch up with my old friends. You get older, and stuff really doesn't matter anymore."

NOLAN GAWRON
letters@metro.us

The moment of reunion

Pernice admits that he was the reason for the breakup: "I am the one who split up the band. I was the reason that it ended. I wanted to do something else."

But he was also the one who got the band back together. "I was playing a show in Boston, so I wrote an e-mail to Tom [Shea, drums, mandolin] and Steve [Desaulniers, guitar, piano, bass] and said, 'I'm going to set up a bass rig and a few mics and here's my set list. I'm going to play these eight Scud Mountain Boys songs. If you wanna show up and play I'd love it, but if you want to drive on, I understand, too,'" he says. "I knew Tom would show up, but Steve showed up too — not a word of conversation in 14 years. I was getting chills, really. It was very emotional. These guys were my good friends, and man, they sat in and it was like we never stopped playing."

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▶ From left: Judges Steven Tyler, Jennifer Lopez and Randy Jackson and host Ryan Seacrest return for Season 11 of "American Idol."

TV watch list

'American Idol'

REALITY. Season 11 finds Jennifer Lopez and Steven Tyler back at the judges' table with "Idol" stalwart Randy Jackson. While they're out to find America's next superstar — and more than a few singers best left on YouTube during the audition rounds — they'll also try to hold onto ratings when NBC's hit "The Voice" returns in just a couple weeks.
Season premiere, 8 p.m., Fox

'Royal Pains'

COMEDY. The summer cliffhanger is resolved when the fate of Eric Kassabian (guest star Wilmer Valderrama) — who may have been given the wrong medication by HankMed — is revealed. With that business out of the way, the crew then does much more fun Hamptons activities.
10 p.m., USA

'Top Chef: Texas'

REALITY. To inspire the chefs to create something "evil," Charlize Theron serves as guest judge. We're guessing the producers were thinking more about her role in the upcoming "Snow White and the Huntsman" and less about how, you know, gorgeous she is. **10 p.m., Bravo**

'Mistresses'

DRAMA. The third and final season kicks off with the ladies no longer friends. Did Katie's mom, played by Joanna Lumley, have something to do with it? If she's anything like her "Absolutely Fabulous" character, the answer is most likely "yes."
Season premiere, 10 p.m., BBC America ● **AMBER RAY**

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The pain in your brain

Migraines can be brutal. For severe sufferers, a migraine attack means nausea, vomiting and extreme head pain, often for days at a time. But there are many variations: Pain can be on one side of the head or on both, it can be intensified by anything from odors to noise to light, and it can be triggered by any one of those things, along with certain foods or drinks (particularly alcoholic ones).

"This is an under-researched area of medicine, and it's amazing how many people have them," says Dr. Elizabeth Loder, who heads Brigham and Women's/Faulkner Hospitals' Division of Headache and Pain in the Department of Neurology. "It's hard to distinguish underlying causes because there are so many. It is so individual. But there is a genetic tendency. Some people have brain tissue that's more susceptible to sensitivity. Migraines really do run in families."

Treatment varies from alleviating the symptoms via pain medications to altering brain chemistry to change the genetic sensitivity. Migraine patients can also learn about their triggers. Common ones include red wine, chocolate, cheese, light, noise, odors and even emotional stress. Not getting enough sleep and skipping meals can lead to migraines, too.

"Find out what triggers the sensitivity in you," says Dr. Loder, "and then avoid them."

Quoted

"It's hard to distinguish underlying causes because there are so many. It is so individual. But there is a genetic tendency."
DR. ELIZABETH LODER

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▶ About three-fourths of all migraine sufferers are women, according to www.womenshealth.gov.

Get writing

Dr. Loder advises migraine sufferers to keep a diary, noting when a migraine occurs, its severity and what you had been doing or what was happening around that time. "This can be very helpful," she says. "Diagnosis is done by listening to the patient. There's no EEG [electroencephalography, a measure of brain movement] to detect it. So the more you tell your doctor, then the more effective the treatment."

LINDA CLARKE
letters@metro.us

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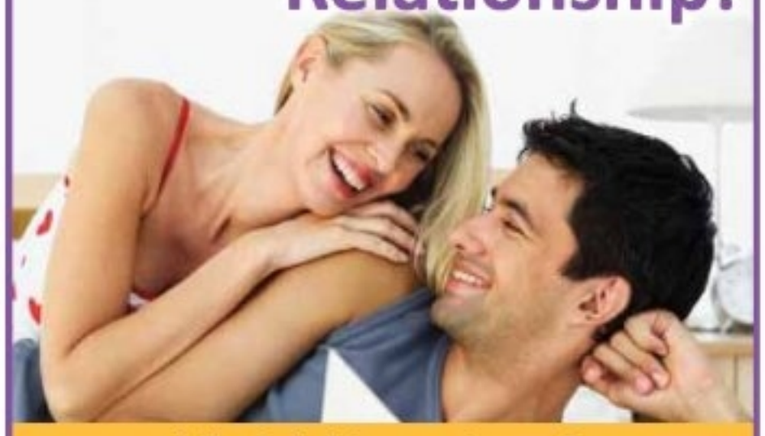

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Letters

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Can't blame Obama for sins of others

RE: "OBAMA MUST TAKE SOME RESPONSIBILITY": I share Mr. Falcon's frustration with the state of the country, but come on! How is President Obama responsible for a rise in teenage pregnancy, the housing slump or private-sector layoffs? Remember, it's Congress who passes laws, and the current House leadership has demonstrated it just doesn't care.
JOSEPH CONNELL, VIA E-MAIL

Be fair, do the math. It took the previous administration more than four years to bring things to this state. Wouldn't it be fair to at least give the present administration the equal amount of time to try to fix things?
AYNE CORBIE, VIA E-MAIL

"I can see it now: The true embodiment of 'trickle down.'"

RE: "WE SHOULD'VE SET UP A BOOTH TO URINATE ON BIN LADEN": The idea of shooting and peeing on people we hate will fit perfectly in my new "Dystopia World" concept — there's only one, but it's all third-world! I can see it now: the true embodiment of "trickle down" economics. Seriously though, has anyone ever heard of empathy, or are we all too busy publishing hate speech?
CHARLES BOSSE, VIA E-MAIL

We have one party: It's called big money

RE: "ENOUGH WITH BLAME; LET'S JUST GET BETTER": Frank St. George is right. We have one party in this country: big government. It has a Republican wing and a Democratic wing, but they are merely different sides of the same coin. Can you honestly say that Romney or Obama are sincere when they speak from their teleprompters?
KELLY DONNOE, LYNBROOK

Programs must be free of all bias

Some politicians are proposing, for austerity purposes, to dismantle some federal programs and to give those responsibilities to the states. Those people who suffered under Jim Crow, de facto segregation in schools, bias in contracts and other discriminatory practices at the local level might find this possibility disconcerting. We must ensure that state programs are administered fairly.
GLENN HAYES, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** The support you've been looking for isn't likely to be forthcoming, so play things close to the vest.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** All those good intentions of yours could quickly be swept aside if you let outside distractions influence you.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** You're not likely to be plagued with a lack of imagination. The problem you'll have will be one of being too easily swayed by your illogical concepts.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** You're likely to get a much better price from a stranger than from the usual places at which you do business.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Although your objectives are worthy ones, a busybody could gum up the works for you if you let him or her do so.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Be careful not to give to an unworthy pal while forgetting about someone who has done much for you.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** There are no guarantees that you will yield the same good fortune if you replicate a friend's endeavor.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Disappointment on your part can be minimized by realizing that you can't be all things to all people.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** If you want to fulfill an important objective, you need to be quite shrewd and resourceful.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** If you make this day one of prudent spending and negotiation, it'll pay off for you more than usual.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** If you try something hard and fall short, it's likely to stop you from trying anything else.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Don't be a source for gossip or hearsay that has yet to be substantiated. If you say anything negative about another, chances are the same will be said about you.
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16 Outback mineral
17 Use the overhead
18 Pat's co-host
19 Kind of van
20 Visited often
22 A little odd
24 Membership payment
25 Gulf st.
26 Competitor
29 Online info
32 Lucy's sidekick
36 Indian town
37 Kind of trail
39 Santa __ winds
40 Earthworms and marmots (2 wds.)
43 Mdse. bill
44 Clothing
45 Artificial fly
46 Mall frequenters
48 Right to decide
49 Mood
50 Startled cry
52 Library abbr.
53 Mystified
57 Cubism founder
61 Derriere
62 Went to the polls
64 Wood-finishing oil
65 Brat in "Blondie"
66 Mind's picture
67 Peace Nobelist __ Ducommun
68 Cold ___ icicle
69 Untrue (2 wds.)
70 Hoodwink

Down
1 Poppycock
2 This, in Barcelona
3 Baseball family name
4 Ruin
5 Embankment
6 By Jove!
7 Prince Val's son
8 Numbers game
9 Personnel
10 Badger-sized marsupial
11 Mayberry kid
12 Superboy's girlfriend
13 Dart
21 __ Aviv
23 Swift-footed
26 Overhaul
27 "Goodnight" girl
28 Trombone part
29 Almanac tidbits
30 Skylit lobbies
31 Ask about
33 Rock's Procol __
34 January, to Juan
35 CD reader
37 RCMP patrol zone
38 __ Dawn Chong
41 Camel stops
42 Howled
47 Synapse neighbor
49 Ad __ committee
51 Costner or Spacey
52 Audio partner
53 California's La __ Tar Pits
54 Long fish
55 Nursery word
56 Major- __ (headwaiter)
57 Cribbage needs
58 Crewmate of Uhura
59 Fabric sample
60 Curved molding
63 Edge a doily

	6							9
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8	5				3	1		
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5		2	4		1	3		6
	9	3					5	
		5	3				1	8
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6							4	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

					7	8	1	
8				5				3
			2		8	9		
1			7	2			8	6
		9		1		4		
7	6			4	5			1
		1	5		3			
2				9				7
	9	3	6					

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS: WWW.METRO.US/PUZZLES

Solution to yesterday's crossword

O	N	E	S			P	S	I		V	E	R	B
D	O	T	E	D		Y	A	R	N		A	L	A	I
D	R	A	P	E		E	R	I	C		M	O	R	N
S	A	L	T	F	L	A	T		L	A	P	P	E	D
				I	C	H		A	I	R		E	R	S
B	A	S	H	E	D		O	M	N	I	A			
A	T	L	A	S		E	M	B	E	Z	Z	L	E	R
B	O	A	R		A	X	E	L	S		U	P	D	O
A	P	P	E	N	D	A	G	E		O	R	G	A	N
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A	R	E	T	H	A		D	E	R	A	N	G	E	D
D	I	V	A		B	L	O	B		W	O	O	D	Y
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How to become sought-after MBA candidate

GMAT scores, undergraduate GPAs and letters of reference are keys to success in graduate applications

Each of the elements of a business school application provides a different kind of information.

"We're looking for well-rounded candidates," says John Adamski, director of graduate admissions at Drexel's LeBow College of Business in Philadelphia. The different elements combine to provide a good picture of that well-rounded candidate.

Strength in one area of the application can compensate for weakness in another. "For instance, someone who's been out of school for several years might have forgotten their algebra, and so not done so well on the GMAT," Adamski explains. "We'd look more closely at their résumé. If he or she was operating as a director, the GMAT score would not necessarily be a problem."

ISTOCKPHOTO

▶ It takes work to get into business school.

Need to know

Adamski explains the significance of each element of a typical application:

- **GMAT score:** At LeBow, the admissions committee weights it more heavily for younger applicants (those with less work experience) and for those looking to enroll in a full-time program.
- **Undergraduate GPA:** You don't have to have been a business major, but you should have good grades. If you had a rocky first semester or first year, stronger grades later can compensate.
- **Statement of purpose:** Think through specifically what you want to achieve by getting an MBA. General comments like "it will help in my career" are not impressive.
- **Letters of reference:** At least one should be from a current or former employer, or sometimes a co-worker. Ask the person to give specific, concrete examples of your success.
- **Résumé:** Make sure it's up to date; don't just dig out the one you used in your last job search two years ago. List outcomes, not just responsibilities.

Do your homework

You'll be applying to more than one school, and you should treat each application individually. "I can spot a cut-and-paste job a mile away," Adamski says. "We want to know not just why you want to go to business school, but why you want to come to LeBow."

Do the research so you know what each school offers and can explain why that school meets your needs, Adamski advises. "We want candidates who have done due diligence to find the schools that will best meet their needs."

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education guide

Rules for law school

Objective qualities like LSAT scores are only part of getting in Some schools also look at person's character

A law school application package includes a mix of objective and subjective elements, says Alicia Brooks, associate director of admissions at New York's Brooklyn Law School.

The three objective elements are the LSAT score, undergraduate GPA and caliber of the school attended. A 4.0 at an Ivy League school is obviously a lot more impressive than a 4.0 at Podunk U.

"We also look at more subjective indicators like character, commitment, aptitude and life experience," Brooks says. These can't be boiled down to numbers, but they're just as important in determining who will benefit from — and succeed in — a law school education.

These subjective factors are weighed to ensure that each entering class represents a range of experiences. "Diversity is important to us," Brooks says. "It makes for more interesting class discussions, and students can benefit by learning from each other."

As you research schools, check their websites for information about how they weigh the different elements. Some schools, for instance, will state a specific minimum score expected on the LSAT, while others will indicate a range of acceptable scores. "Look at the profiles of previous classes for typical GPAs and test scores," Brooks advises.

Once you've identified your target schools, you should visit each school in person if at all possible. Many schools schedule tours and information sessions for prospective students.

JUDY WEIGHTMAN
judy.weightman@metro.us

Tip for success

"Use your personal statement to emphasize your strengths and explain your weaknesses," Brooks says.

If there's a problem that you can't do anything about, like your undergrad GPA, "Explain that weakness without being defensive and shifting blame," Brooks advises. Did you switch majors and do better after that change? Were there other things going on in your life that affected your schoolwork? Accept responsibility for your actions, but let the school know what the circumstances were.

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Hamels gets paid, but still no extension

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Hamels is still seeking a long-term contract.

◐ Phillies, ace lefty avoid arbitration ◐ Inks one-year, $15 million contract ◐ Valdez also receives pay raise

Cole Hamels can now put his wallet up against those other aces on the Phillies' staff.

The ace left-hander avoided arbitration yesterday, signing a one-year contract worth $15 million. The deal includes incentive clauses for Cy Young, MVP and postseason awards, per CBSSports.com. It's the largest salary for an arbitration-eligible pitcher before being eligible for free agency.

Hamels just finished a three-year, $20.5 million deal. He went 14-9 with a 2.79 ERA in 2011 and made his second career All-Star appearance.

Hamels is a free agent after the 2012 season. While the Phillies and Hamels continue to negotiate, the one-year deal is an indication that the two sides aren't that close.

"We're happy we've concluded the one-year portion of this," Hamels' agent, John Boggs, told ESPN.com. "And at the appropriate time, I'm sure we'll have dialogue with the Phillies and continue talking about a multiyear deal."

The Phillies also avoided arbitration with utility player Wilson Valdez. The 33-year-old will make $930,000 — up from $560,000 — in 2012.

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Cole Hamels will make $15 million this season, tying him for 11th among MLB's highest-paid pitchers.

1. **Johan Santana**
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2. **CC Sabathia**
   Yankees, $23 million
3. **Cliff Lee**
   Phillies, $21.5 million
4. **Justin Verlander**
   Tigers, $20 million
4. **Roy Halladay**
   Phillies, $20 million
5. **Barry Zito**
   Giants, $19 million
6. **Jake Peavy**
   White Sox, $17 million
7. **A.J. Burnett**
   Yankees, $16.5 million
8. **Roy Oswalt**
   Due $16 million, but Phils bought him out at $2 million
9. **Josh Beckett**
   Red Sox, $15.75 million
10. **John Lackey**
    Red Sox, $15.25 million
11. **Cole Hamels ... Derek Lowe, Matt Cain, Chris Carpenter, Carlos Zambrano** due $15 million

What about Hunter?

The Phillies have one remaining arbitration-eligible player: Hunter Pence.

The sides have a hearing scheduled in February. Pence filed for $11.8 million, while the Phillies put it at $9 million.

Pence would like to remain in red pinstripes.

"I haven't heard anything about an extension," Pence told 94 WIP yesterday. "I'm pretty confident we're going to be working on a deal for this year. I'd love to be in Philly. I absolutely enjoy every moment with the organization, the fans, the city."

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NHL. Flyers 5, Wild 1

▶ Sean Couturier, center, scored his 10th goal of the season.

GETTY IMAGES

Into the Wild: Orange and Black rout Minnesota

Teammates surrounded Sean Couturier after his second-period goal gave the Flyers a 2-0 lead. Kimmo Timonen, Braydon Coburn, Scott Hartnell and Jakub Voracek also lit the lamp as the Orange and Black routed Minnesota, 5-1. Ilya Bryzgalov retained his spot as the No. 1 goaltender and stopped 25-of-26 shots faced. Flyers host the Islanders (7 p.m., CSN) tomorrow.

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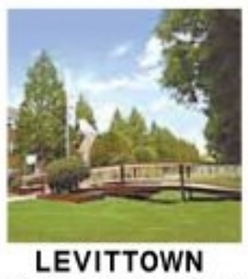
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at home with metro

The Home Show: What not to miss

Looking for the latest in home décor and remodeling? Check out the Philadelphia Home Show, at the Convention Center through Sunday. Over 500 vendors will be showing off their services and wares, from potholders to hot tubs.

"Attendees can shop, get ideas for do-it-yourself projects, talk to contractors about big renovations — anything for any aspect of the home," says Alyson Caplan, show director.

Here are Caplan's tips on what not to miss:

Buy local

New to the show this year, Ardmore's outdoor springtime market is coming inside. The Clover Market will be set up at the Home Show this weekend, with local artisans selling vintage furniture and handmade crafts. "It's a great opportunity for 'cash and carry,'" Caplan says. "You can leave with some amazing things."

Learn from the design experts

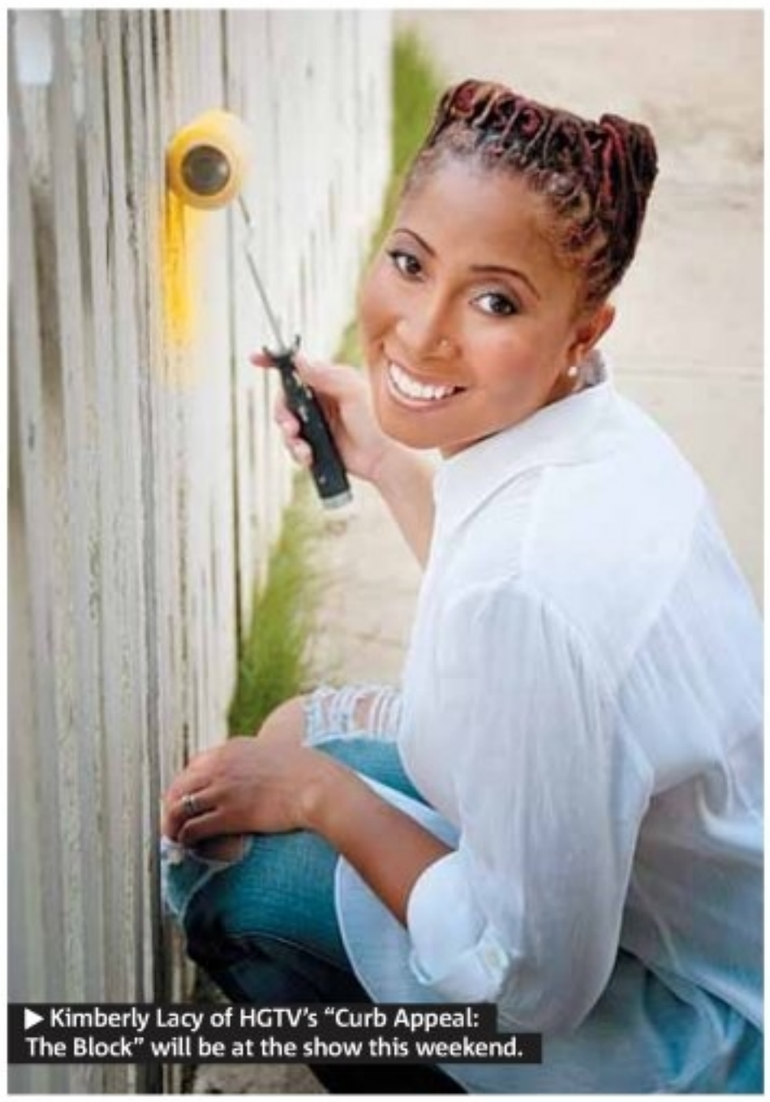
Four design companies teamed up with four local celebrities to create their dream rooms, and the designers will be on hand to give decorating advice. Stroll through rooms put together by Michael Dornblum and Susan Gevurtz from Dwelling with 98.1 WOGL's Valerie Knight; Denise Sabia from the Painted Home with Comcast SportsNet's Gregg Murphy; Ronnie Silpazio from LeMontage with B101's Tiffany Hill; and Tommi Mischell from K Gallery with 6ABC's Melissa Magee.

Find new ways to go green

"Attendees can learn about the National Green Building Program, purchasing recycled carpets, different energy solutions, and on and on," says Caplan.

EnergyWorks will also be at the show to offer some green advice through "Home Energy Efficiency 101" sessions.

RACHEL VIGODA
letters@metro.us


▶ Kimberly Lacy of HGTV's "Curb Appeal: The Block" will be at the show this weekend.

If you go

The Philadelphia Home Show is open 4-9 p.m. today and tomorrow; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. It's $13 at the door, or $10 in advance at www.phillyhomeshow.com.

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at home with metro

Your very own winter wonderland

Whether you love to ski or prefer lazing by a fire, owning a mountain getaway is more affordable then you think Two locations to consider

Bruce Willis recently put his six-bedroom Sun Valley, Idaho, home — set in prime territory for snowy winter sports — up for sale. The price tag is a steep $15 million.

That figure might not work for most budgets, but owning a mountainside second home isn't an impossible dream.

"It's an indulgence — not yacht indulgence, but it's a luxury," says Brian Ganey, Massachusetts' Jiminy Peak's real estate director. "A love of the sport comes first. People who like to ski become homeowners here."

Homes at Jiminy Peak, which is set in the gorgeous Berkshires, mostly range from under $200,000 for a one-bedroom condo to $500,000 for a four-bedroom.

"It could not be a better time to buy. The selection of properties is excellent; a ski home is as affordable as it will [ever] be."

JAN STEARNS, WATERVILLE VALLEY REALTY'S MARKETING DIRECTOR

Like Jiminy Peak, Waterville Valley in New Hampshire's White Mountains is a cluster of small developments with different style homes. At the Golden Eagle and Black Bear Lodges, one- and two-bedroom condominiums start at $77,900. Four-bedroom town houses begin at $495,000.

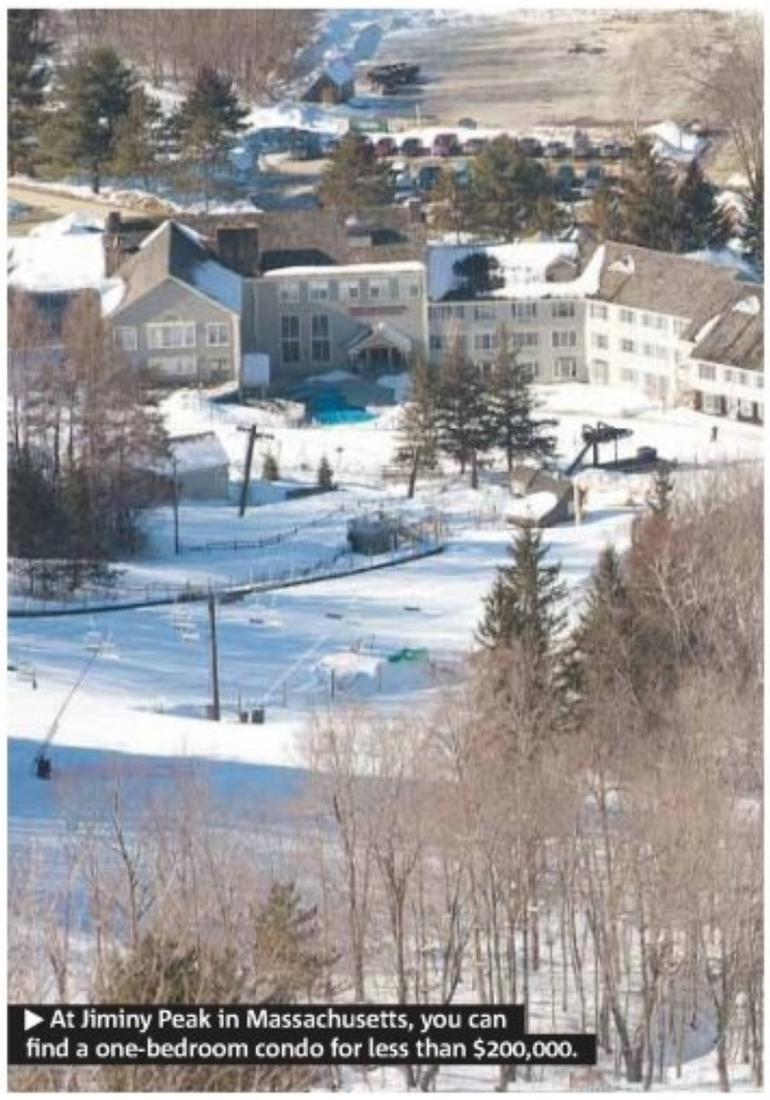
"Choosing a vacation home requires the same due diligence as any real estate purchase," says Jan Stearns, Waterville Valley Realty's marketing director. "But it is a buyer's market. It could not be a better time to buy. The selection of properties is excellent; a ski home is as affordable as it will [ever] be."

Ganey agrees: "Prices dropped about 30 percent a couple of years ago, but are stabilizing. It's still good time to buy — there's a high inventory, and mortgage interest rates are low. Long term, prices will go up."

LINDA LABAN
linda.laban@metro.us

Buy now

6 Boulderwood Way, Waterville Valley, NH: Four-bed, three-bath duplex with mountain views and split-level design with cathedral ceilings. Listing price: $389,000. Contact: Susan Hammond, Waterville Valley Realty, 603-236-8333.



▶ At Jiminy Peak in Massachusetts, you can find a one-bedroom condo for less than $200,000.

metro philadelphia mortgage guide

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This year, the Regatta Organizing Committee is making facilities available to even more crews to train for the big race in May. Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis. To find out more and register your crew, visit **www.aberdeen-asset.us/dadvail**.

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